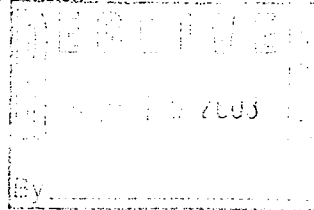




U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Illinois Division



3250 Executive Park Drive
Springfield, Illinois 62703

September 10, 2003

HPP-IL

Mike Am...

Mr. Philip M. Smithmeyer, Manager
Chicago Airports District Office
Federal Aviation Administration
2300 East Devon Avenue
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018

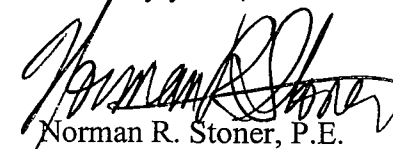
Dear Mr. Smithmeyer:

We are writing in response to your July 18, 2003 letter offering our agency the opportunity to serve as a Cooperating Agency with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), within the context of the forthcoming Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) concerning the City of Chicago's concept for expanding and realigning O'Hare International Airport. Considering the importance of this air transportation project for the Chicago region and the possible impacts to the highway system, the traveling public, and the movement of goods in this area, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) accepts your offer to serve as a Cooperating Agency.

As indicated in your letter, it is understood that the FHWA will not be requested to write, or otherwise produce, any portion of the forthcoming EIS. The FHWA fully intends to participate in meetings as needed with the FAA to discuss matters such as Purpose and Need and Range of Alternatives to be Evaluated in Detail.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this capacity for such an important transportation improvement. Future coordination on this project can be provided through Chris Byars, Transportation Engineer, of our Chicago Metropolitan Office, 312-886-1616 and/or J.D. Stevenson, Environmental Programs Engineer, 217-492-4638.

Sincerely yours,


Norman R. Stoner, P.E.
Division Administrator